Application No. 09/646,5/7
Reply to Office Action of June 27, 2003

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 4 and 5 are deleted. Claims 1 to 3 remain active.

Retained claims 1 and 2 stand allowed.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is requested for the following reason.

Claim 3 is amended to recite the positive step of carrying out the oxidative preparation with the defined catalyst in contact with acrolein. Basis appears at page 18, lines 26 to 31 and 33 to 35 and in the Examples, pages 32 and 33.

The specification is amended to comply with the guidelines for arrangement of the specification, though the titling of the sections is altered to that which is more appropriate to the following content.

A PTO-1449 listing the International Search Report citations is included.

Favorable consideration is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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